



# WORLD BOXING ORGANIZATION

**Luis Batista Salas, Esq.**  
**Chairman**  
**Championship Committee**

May 19, 2022

**VIA EMAIL:**

Mr. Bob Arum  
President  
Top Rank, Inc.  
Las Vegas, Nevada

**Re: Interim WBO Middleweight Championship Contest**  
**Zhanibek Alimkhanuly vs. Danny Dignum**

Dear Mr. Arum:

Please be advised that the WBO World Championship Committee is hereby granting sanction approval for the above-referenced Interim Middleweight Championship Contests between Zhanibek Alimkhanuly and Danny Dignum to be held on Saturday, May 21, 2022, at the Resorts World Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Nevada, United States of America.

This bout is sanctioned subject to (i) the winner of Zhanibek/Dignum must face within 180 days after the bout, the WBO Middleweight Champion; (ii) the WBO Middleweight Champion has up to 180-days after the Zhanibek/Dignum bout to be medically and physically ready, willing, and able to fight the winner of the Zhanibek/Dignum bout; (iii) 60 days after the Zhanibek/Dignum bout is conducted, the WBO World Championship Committee will order a 30-day negotiation period between the winner of Zhanibek/Dignum and the WBO Middleweight Champion; and (iv) if the WBO Middleweight Champion is not medically and physically ready, willing, and able to fight within the term provided herein, the WBO Middleweight Championship will be declared "Vacant" "Ipso Facto" and the WBO World Championship Committee shall recommend to the WBO Ratings Committee that the WBO Middleweight Participant be rated at the number one (1) position in the Middleweight Ratings. Consequently, the WBO Interim Middleweight Champion will automatically be elevated to "Full Champion" status.

The foregoing provisions will allow the WBO Middleweight Champion to be ready, willing, and able to fight as required per Section 19 (f) of the WBO Regulations of World Championship Contests, which provides, in relevant:

**SECTION 19. FAILURE OF THE CHAMPION TO COMPLY WITH THE TERMS OF A WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP CONTRACT OR THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RULES**

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(f) However, if the Champion is unable to defend his Championship within the time periods provided in these rules because he is physically disabled for a justified cause and said disability has been verified and accepted by the World Championship Committee, the Champion may be granted a reasonable time to recover from the disability and retrain to competitive condition, which shall not in total exceed 180 days. The disability extension will be granted only if the Committee determines, based on competent medical advice, that the Champion is reasonably expected to recover from his disability within the maximum allowable term of disability extension. The Committee may condition its approval of a disability extension upon the Champion providing interim medical certifications that he is reasonably expected to recover within the term of the disability extension.

Lastly, the WBO World Championship Committee reserves the right to issue any further rulings deem necessary, helpful, and convenient to accomplish the purposes, policies, and intent of the WBO Regulations of World Championship Contests, including serving the best interests in the sport, the fighters, and the World Boxing Organization.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Luis Batista Salas', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Luis Batista Salas, Esq.

Cc: Francisco Valcárcel, Esq./President  
Carl Moretti/Top Rank  
Jeremy Koegel, Esq./Top Rank  
Egis Klimas/Team Alimkhanuly  
Lee Eaton/Team Dignum  
Ed Farris/Team Andrade  
Shaun Palmer/Matchroom Boxing

